



Unified Soil Classification System (USCS)—Generalized

Well-Graded (many sizes):

Gravels

GW

Well-graded gravel

Sands

SW

Well-graded sand

Poorly-Graded (uniform size)

Gravels

GP

Poorly-graded gravel

Sands

SP

Poorly-graded sand

Sands with enough fines to stain a wet palm:

SW-SM

Well-graded sand with silt

SW-SC

Well-graded sand with clay

SP-SM

Poorly-graded sand with silt

SP-SC

Poorly-graded sand with clay

Sandy loamy soils:

Non-sticky/Non-Plastic

SM

Silty sand

Sticky/Plastic

SC

Clayey sand

Fine-Grained Soils:

Average NC clays

CL

Lean clay

Average NC silts

ML

Lean silt

Very heavy/sticky/plastic clays

CH

Heavy clay

Very heavy/sticky/plastic silts

MH

Heavy silt